

Radar image of Antarctica from the RADARSAT-1 Antarctic Mapping mission (grayscale) overlaid with an ice-flow velocity map (color). Green areas represent slow (1–20 m/yr) flow in the interior of the ice sheet. This flow coalesces into a network of tributaries (blue) moving at intermediate speeds (40–200 m/yr) that feed fast moving (purple/red) outlet glaciers and ice streams (400–3,000 m/yr). These fast moving glaciers discharge ice to the ocean where they melt or break off to form icebergs. (Data from the SAR instrument on the RADARSAT and ERS-1 and ERS-2 satellites.)

